

COMMISSION CONFERENCE**OCTOBER 3, 2000**Agenda
ItemPage

I-A	Sea Turtles on the Beach	1
I-B	National League of Cities – Annual Congress of Cities	2
II-A	Grant Writing Services for Downtown Development Authority (DDA)	3
II-B	Annual Citizen Survey, Customer Satisfaction	3
III-B	Advisory Board Vacancies:	
	1. Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board	3
	2. Budget Advisory Board	4
	3. Community Appearance Board (Deferred)	4
	5. Education Advisory Board (Deferred)	4
	6. Historic Preservation Board	4
	7. Parks, Recreation & Beaches Advisory Board	4
	8. Unsafe Structures & Housing Appeals Board (Deferred)	4
IV	City Commission Reports:	
	1. Lincoln Park	5
	2. NAIL Program	5
	3. Broward Count Parks Bond Referendum	5
	4. Cleveland Clinic/Emergency Room on the Beach	7
	5. National League of Cities – Economic Development	7
	6. Crime on the Beach	7
	7. New River Post Office Site	8
	8. Item Pur. 2 of 9/9/00 Regular Meeting	8
	9. Sunshine House	8
	10. Florida Neighborhood Conference	8
	11. Interdistrict Corridor Study – State Road 84	9
	12. Sailboat Bend Property – School Board	9
	13. Fire Demonstration at Mills Pond Park	9
	14. Police Training Facility	10
OB	Boys and Girls Club	3

Present: Mayor Naugle
Commissioners Hutchinson, Katz, Smith, and Moore (via Speakerphone)

Also Present: City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, and Police Sergeant

Mayor Naugle welcomed Commissioner Moore, who joined the meeting by speakerphone, and he encouraged everyone to vote today. Commissioner Smith was glad Commissioner Moore was feeling better.

I-A – Sea Turtles on the Beach

A discussion was scheduled on the City's efforts to ensure the safety of sea turtles on the beach, as requested by Mayor Naugle. The City Manager introduced Mr. Greg Kisela, Assistant City Manager, to make the presentation. Mr. Kisela noted that Memorandum No. 00-1454 outlined efforts that had been made to preserve sea turtles over the past 8 or 9 years. He advised that a letter sent to the City in July, 1999 had not been located, but it had pertained to an isolated incident at Northeast 17th Street about the streetlights. He advised that a meeting had been scheduled with State and County officials in hopes of resolving issues with lights, and some changes were contemplated in the method and schedule of beach cleaning activities.

Mayor Naugle thought there was some way to measure the light being cast because he wondered if the problem actually was the streetlights or if it was light coming from the City. Mr. Kisela agreed the problem was not necessarily streetlights, but residential and other buildings. He believed the lighting in some locations was clearly not coming from streetlights. Mr. Kisela noted that turning off the lights along the pedestrian promenade had been tried, but that had resulted in a safety problem. He believed the ultimate solution was identifying nests that were in danger and relocating them to the hatching area.

Mayor Naugle believed that some of the lights in question were the cobra lights installed by the State. Mr. Kisela said the incident in July, 1999 had involved the cobra headlights on A-1-A. Mayor Naugle understood those had been State-installed lights. Mr. Kisela agreed that was correct. Mayor Naugle asked if those lights had been shielded in any way. Mr. Pete Sheridan, City Engineer, did not believe so and did not think there was any easy way to do it. He explained that the lights were on the west side of the road, but the light needed to spill across the road to facilitate vehicle movement. Mr. Kisela believed the lights on the promenade had been shielded south of Sunrise Boulevard. Mr. Sheridan agreed that was correct.

Mayor Naugle asked if there had been any meeting with *Mr. Bill Margolis*, of Nova Southeastern, in order to obtain recommendations. It was his understanding that Mr. Margolis was greatly concerned about turtle deaths. Mr. Tom Tapp, Director of Parks & Recreation, had not met with him personally. Ms. Carol Ingold, Parks & Recreation Department, stated that Mr. Margolis inspected the beach every day, and staff interacted with him, but no problem had ever been mentioned. She advised that every year some 99 to 143 nests were relocated, but only 1 to 4 nests per year had been missed, so staff was surprised this had suddenly been raised as an issue.

Mayor Naugle felt the City should take this seriously, and he wanted the City Manager to contact Mr. Margolis and let the State know the City was taking this seriously. He was concerned that the State would deny building permits on the beach if these types of issues were not addressed.

The City Manager stated that the City had been taking this issue seriously, and that was one of the reasons for this report. He pointed out that staff had been dealing with turtle preservation with respect to how the beach was cleaned to the lighting and even as to the design of the lifeguard stands. He advised that he was scheduling meetings, although this matter had come as a surprise because staff regularly worked with the appropriate regulatory agencies.

Mr. Tapp stated that Mr. Margolis had a contract with the State to provide these reports, and staff's contacts were with his bosses. He advised that staff worked with the State Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Tapp explained that Mr. Margolis was the State's inspector, but staff had no reason to communicate with him directly because they worked with the regulatory agencies to which he reported. Nevertheless, staff was more than happy to meet with Mr. Margolis.

Commissioner Smith asked if the dunes being created with the sea oats would assist in the future in terms of sea turtles since they would shield the beach from lights. Mr. Tapp thought the dunes would probably help in some areas because they did provide some light blockage. Commissioner Smith asked if brighter lights could be used on the buoys to redirect the turtles. He asked staff to explore this type of creative solution during meetings with the regulatory officials. Mr. Tapp said that staff was willing to explore any idea that might help. Mayor Naugle recalled a national school project some years ago, and students from all over the United States had sent letters and ideas.

Commissioner Katz noticed that there were several condominiums on the Galt Ocean Mile that had lighting problems, and she asked staff to work with them on some voluntary light shading. Mayor Naugle advised this was a challenge because a certain amount of lighting was desirable from a public safety standpoint, and a balance had to be achieved to protect the turtles.

Commissioner Smith suggested Mayor Naugle write to the Department of Environmental Protection explaining just how seriously the City took this issue. The City Manager agreed to prepare a letter, and Mayor Naugle thought it would be helpful to contact Mr. Margolis in this regard. Mr. Kisela reiterated that this had come as a surprise because Mr. Margolis had never communicated directly with staff even though they were out on the beach together regularly.

Action: As discussed.

I-B – National League of Cities – Annual Congress of Cities

It was the consensus of the Commission that Mayor Naugle serve as the voting delegate to the Annual Congress of Cities to be held in Boston from December 5 to 9, 2000, and that Commissioner Katz serve as the alternate voting delegate.

Action: Mayor Naugle appointed voting delegate. Commissioner Katz appointed alternate voting delegate.

OB – Boys and Girls Club

Mayor Naugle recalled that during the recent controversy involving the Boy Scouts of America, a group of citizens had come together and donated funds they wished to contribute to the Boys and Girls Clubs. He presented *Mr. David Hughes* with an envelope stuffed with checks totaling about \$5,930. A \$10,000 check had been presented to the Boy Scouts earlier. Mr. Hughes stated that this money would be applied to equipping the first NFL Youth Education Talent (YET) center. He reported that the NFL had provided \$1 million, which had been matched by the Boys and Girls Club, for reconstruction of the original Boys and Girls Club that had opened in 1965. Mr. Hughes announced the new Club would open on October 28, 2000, and a big celebration was planned for 10:00 A.M. on that date. He expressed appreciation for this donation.

The City Manager stated that as a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club, he had sent a letter to everyone individually who had contributed these monies to let them know the money was being presented today.

Action: None.

II-A – Grant Writing Services for Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

A report was presented on a proposal to provide grant-writing services for the DDA. Mayor Naugle thought this sounded great. Commissioner Katz suggested consideration of keeping this grant-writer busy with City activities. The City Manager said he had met with him to discuss some other opportunities, but he was trying to be judicious because he wanted to keep priorities straight. Commissioner Moore wanted to see how successful the grant-writer would be before giving him more tasks.

Action: None.

II-B – Annual Citizen Survey – Customer Satisfaction

A report was presented on the proposed questions for the annual citizen survey on customer satisfaction to be conducted sometime in October or November. Commissioner Katz asked if a question could be added about how the citizens felt about public funding of social services. Commissioner Moore thought that would be a good addition. The City Manager asked if the Commission would await the results before scheduling the workshop requested in that regard.

Mr. Terry Sharp, Assistant Director of Finance, expected the results of the survey to be available by Thanksgiving. It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule the workshop after the survey results were in.

Action: As discussed.

III-B – Advisory Board Vacancies

1. **Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board**

Commissioner Moore wished to appoint Ms. Desorae Giles-Smith to the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board.

Action: Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

2. Budget Advisory Board

Commissioner Katz suggested the appointment of Ms. Wendy Beninate to the Budget Advisory Board.

Action: Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

3. Community Appearance Board

Action: Deferred.

4. Community Services Board

Commissioner Moore wanted to reappoint Ms. Jennie Brooks, Mr. Jerome Hankerson, and Ms. Marsha Goldsby to the Community Services Board.

Action: Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

5. Education Advisory Board

Action: Deferred.

6. Historic Preservation Board

Commissioner Moore wished to appoint Ms. Jeryl Madfis to the Historic Preservation Board.

Action: Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

7. Parks, Recreation & Beaches Advisory Board

Commissioner Hutchinson wanted to appoint Ms. Elizabeth Hayes, Mr. Joe Shover, and Mr. Tim Nast to this Board. The other Commissioners wanted to reappoint existing members Mr. Scott Strawbridge, Mr. Julie Cameron, Mr. John Rude, Mr. Albert Massey, III, Ms. Joan M. Kretz, Mr. John Melnicoff, Mr. Robert Hoysgaard, Ms. Charlotte Honea, Mr. Jim Gouveia, Mr. Alan MacLeod, Mr. Jack Mertz, and Mr. Ozzie Davenport.

Action: Formal action to be taken at Regular Meeting.

8. Unsafe Structures and Housing Appeals Board

Action: Deferred.

IV – City Commission Reports**1. Lincoln Park**

Commissioner Moore was still concerned about the costs associated with the recommendation for the Lincoln Park site. He asked if the projected cost had been finalized. The City Manager replied that a full schedule had been requested in order to seek Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) before the end of this month. Commissioner Moore was disappointed about how long this was taking because he had thought the RFQ would be released in September. The City Manager did not recall a time frame being mentioned, but he agreed to research the record in that regard. Commissioner Moore believed this had been discussed in July, and he felt it was taking a long time to develop the RFQ. The City Manager added that some personnel had been pulled from other projects in order to prepare drawings, but he would provide an update.

Action: As discussed.

2. NAIL Program

Commissioner Moore noted that an item was on this evening's Regular Agenda relating to a NAIL application for 100 Black Men of Broward County. This money had been awarded for purchase of a building in another location, but the acquisition had not taken place for some reason. He was not critical of this organization, but another NAIL application was being considered, and he felt there should be a procedure for reallocating funding when an authorized purchase did not go through for some reason.

Mayor Naugle asked Commissioner Moore if he would like to defer the item on the Regular Agenda until October 17, 2000. Commissioner Moore did not want to delay that application, but he did want to discuss some method for these things to come back to the Commission. Mayor Naugle pointed out that it was coming back to the Commission since it was on the agenda this evening. Evidently, the organization had found another building. Commissioner Moore understood that was apparently the case, but he was only guessing.

Mr. Pete Witschen, Assistant City Manager, agreed it was appropriate to spell out a procedure for the future. In this case, the original building had not appraised at the requested price, so another property had been sought for the same business program and within the same budget in order to preserve the City's mortgage interest.

Action: As discussed.

3. Broward County Parks Bond Referendum

Commissioner Katz wanted to add something to the proposed list of Fort Lauderdale projects to be considered in connection with the Broward County Parks Bond Referendum. Mayor Naugle wondered if the County was going to commit to certain projects. Commissioner Katz said it had been suggested that the list be handed personally to Commissioner Rodstrom and Commissioner Jacobs with a request that everything on the list be approved for funding before the election on November 7, 2000. If those projects were not going to be funded, Commissioner Katz felt the City should oppose the bond issue. Commissioner Moore supported that idea.

Commissioner Hutchinson understood Commissioner Rodstrom was trying to get a commitment like this, but other than Commissioner Jacobs, there did not seem to be support on the County Commission. Commissioner Smith suggested that a report be presented this evening about any discussion in this regard at the County Commission meeting today. Mayor Naugle had expected someone to make an appearance today to provide a commitment on the record.

Commissioner Moore said he had contacted the County about a piece of property, which had been the home site of Dr. Sistrunk. It was on the North Fork of the New River and was on the market, and it was currently being used for the storage of boats and tractor-trailers. Commissioner Moore asked the real estate staff to obtain the particulars on this property because he felt it would be very appropriate for open green space. Commissioner Smith wanted to get assurances from the County on Fort Lauderdale projects. Commissioner Moore agreed.

Mayor Naugle thought one problem was that the County could not commit to the acquisition of particular sites without driving up the price. Therefore, he felt a dollar commitment would be better than commitments as to particular projects. Commissioner Moore agreed that would be better. In the meantime, he suggested that staff contact the owners of properties on the list to determine if they were willing to sell.

Commissioner Katz wanted assurances that there would be another County park in the northeast. Mayor Naugle felt some of the funds should be earmarked for the greenway projects, such as those on Broward Boulevard, Northeast 18th Avenue, Northeast 13th Street, and Northeast 15th Avenue. Commissioner Moore added Northwest 19th Street.

Mayor Naugle felt that if Fort Lauderdale was going to contribute 17% of the money to this bond issue, there was a "\$64 million question." Commissioner Hutchinson believed the County could commit to some of the projects on the list in advance because they did not involve property acquisition. Mayor Naugle agreed, and the greenways were a good example. Commissioner Smith said he had heard that Fort Lauderdale had not made what it wanted clear to the County, so he thought a resolution should be adopted this evening indicating what the City felt would be a fair return for its citizens.

The City Manager understood the County Commission was meeting right now, and he believed the City Attorney could prepare a resolution for consideration this evening outlining specific projects and making mention of a fair return based on the City's contribution to the bond issue. The City Manager said he had spoken with the County Administrator, but he had not been very encouraging. He agreed a resolution would leave nothing to doubt.

Commissioner Moore noted that there was a parcel adjoining the Wingate site that should be considered. Mayor Naugle understood he was referring to the lakefront property. Commissioner Smith felt that if Fort Lauderdale received its fair share from the bond issue, it would make sense to reclaim certain lands. Commissioner Katz wondered if the County could purchase a City park and take over the maintenance since there was only 1 County Park within Fort Lauderdale boundaries.

Mr. Tapp stated that the County owned Melrose Park, and County staff had discussed the possibility of turning over neighborhood parks within corporate limits to the cities and dealing only with the regional parks. He advised that some land for a northeast regional park had been discussed as well. Commissioner Katz thought that would be great, rather than the City taking on another park.

Commissioner Smith felt there should be a “drop dead” date established so that if the County did not offer assurances about the City receiving its fair share of the funds, it would not be too late for the City to take a position opposing the bond issue. The City Manager advised that Commissioner Rodstrom's Aide had indicated that the County Commission had not yet discussed this item, so the Commission could go to that meeting when this meeting concluded. It was agreed. Mayor Naugle noted the need for the rip-rap manatee habitat in Coral Ridge Isles along 14th Avenue. Mr. Tapp advised that the Parks, Recreation & Beaches Advisory Board had almost this same discussion with a representative of Broward County at its last meeting. The Board had not been happy with what they had heard and wanted assurances that Fort Lauderdale would receive its fair share.

Action: As discussed.

4. Cleveland Clinic/Emergency Room on the Beach

Commissioner Smith reported that he'd had a lunch meeting today with a group of citizens leading the effort to retain a hospital on the barrier island, and they had received some commitments from the candidates for State Senate. He advised that this would be a State funding issue that would likely turn on the election results.

Action: None.

5. National League of Cities – Economic Development

Commissioner Katz said she was interested in bringing someone to Fort Lauderdale to speak to the Commission about various ideas for economic development that she had heard at the National League of Cities meeting about a year ago. The City Manager said he was tentatively scheduling this for the date of the second meeting in November, and he hoped to have a Friday memorandum ready in this regard by the end of the week. Mayor Naugle requested more specific information, and Commissioner Katz advised that there had been speakers discussing how to bring in economic development and channel things to make better decisions about the various businesses coming in.

Action: City Manager to schedule workshop.

6. Crime on the Beach

Commissioner Smith presented a letter from the Beach Public Safety Committee, which was a new committee of citizens that had been formed when the beach crime statistics had started to rise. The Committee had been meeting for a few months and supported the following proposals:

1. Elimination of the 18- to 21-age group from bars and restaurants that derive more than 51% of their revenues from liquor;
2. An increase in foot patrol officers on the beach, from Las Olas to Vistamar, by 5 officers for the period of 8:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M.;
3. Installation of a 5' aluminum fence at the perimeter of Las Olas Boulevard/A-1-A and Las Olas Boulevard/Birch city park lots with 6-limited access like the Sebastian lot in order to assist the police inside and outside of these lots; and
4. Increased lighting on street and City parking lots to provide necessary visibility without irritation of the residential sector or sea turtles.

Mayor Naugle pointed out that the fencing could be very expensive, but placing it on the east side alone should be helpful. He suggested that the Police Chief and his crime prevention staff examine these proposals and provide a Friday memorandum to the Commission. Commissioner Smith wondered if the Highway Patrol would provide assistance since A-1-A was a State road, and some traffic assistance could free up local police to address other issues.

The Police Chief advised he could explore the options suggested and provide a Friday memorandum. Mayor Naugle believed that past efforts to commingle jurisdictions had taken place, and there had been strong responses as to Union issues. The Police Chief said the Florida Highway Patrol was one of the most critically under-staffed law enforcement agency in the State, but he could investigate the suggestions.

Action: Staff to investigate and report.

7. New River Post Office Site

Commissioner Smith desired a tour of the Old New River Post Office site. Mayor Naugle suggested the Commission do that this afternoon along with going over to the County Commission meeting. It was agreed.

Action: Commission to tour site this afternoon.

8. Item Pur. 2 of 9/19/00 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Hutchinson said she intended to seek a motion at the Regular Meeting to reconsider Item Pur. 2 on the 9/19/00 agenda relating to garbage truck chassis. She wanted to reconsider the matter on October 17, 2000 based on safety concerns.

Action: As discussed.

9. Sunshine House

Commissioner Hutchinson requested an update on the Sunshine House at 637 Southwest 15th Avenue.

Action: Staff to provide update.

10. Florida Neighborhood Conference

Commissioner Hutchinson reported that the Florida Neighborhood Conference started this week, and 18 neighborhood tours were planned. She stated that almost 1,000 people had registered, and she encouraged the Commission to participate in the tours.

The City Manager advised that a luncheon was planned for Saturday at the Convention Center, and Commissioner Hutchinson had invited the Commission to attend. He stated that seats would be reserved at a representative table. Commissioner Moore said he planned to attend. Commissioner Hutchinson reported that Clarence Anthony, Mayor of South Bay, would be the keynote speaker. Commissioner Smith believed he was the former President of the National League of Cities.

Commissioner Smith complimented Commissioner Hutchinson on the active role she had taken in arranging this event. Commissioner Moore agreed she had done a fine job on this project, and now the entire country was aware of who Commissioner Hutchinson because of these efforts.

Action: None.

11. Interdistrict Corridor Study – State Road 84

Commissioner Hutchinson said she had requested an inter-district corridor street study for State Road 84, and she had expected completion in September. However, it was not ready. She pointed out that there was a lot going on, and if the goal was to follow the result of the design charette, this study would be very helpful.

Action: As discussed.

12. Sailboat Bend Property – School Board

Commissioner Hutchinson had attended the School Board meeting recently about the Sailboat Bend property. It was her understanding that it would go out for bid. She said the School Board did not understand how 13.5 acres only had an appraised value as another 3-acre site. Commissioner Hutchinson did not think the School Board understood the zoning issues. Mayor Naugle wondered if there was a builder interested. Commissioner Hutchinson said Lennar Builders was interested in teaming up with Art Serve to help build the art space project.

Mayor Naugle pointed out that the City had declared the South Side School historic, and it had also been a former cemetery. He wondered if that had been disclosed in the RFP. Mr. Witschen said he would send a letter to the Superintendent reminding him of that fact. Mayor Naugle believed as many as the graves as could be found had been relocated some years ago, but this had been the City's first cemetery.

Action: As discussed.

13. Fire Demonstration at Mills Pond Park

Commissioner Hutchinson said she had watched some fire demonstrations at Mills Pond Park recently, and she'd had the opportunity for some "one-on-one" conversations with the firefighters present. One of the Lieutenants had raised an issue. She explained that New York City kept one master key for every elevator in all the high rise buildings in the City. However, that was not the case in Fort Lauderdale, which made emergencies difficult. Commissioner Hutchinson did not believe it would cost anything to take this simple measure to make things easier.

The City Manager advised that he had asked the Fire Chief to consider this idea, and a recommendation would be provided. He believed there was some question as to whether the New York Fire Department had a master key to the boxes that held the elevator keys in all the high rise buildings. The Fire Chief added that he would research the practice and provide a Friday memorandum within a couple of weeks.

Action: Staff to investigate and report.

14. Police Training Facility

Commissioner Hutchinson reported that tours of the police training facility were being arranged if any of the other Commissioners were interested.

Action: None.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

NOTE: A MECHANICAL RECORDING HAS BEEN MADE OF THE FOREGOING PROCEEDINGS, OF WHICH THESE MINUTES ARE A PART, AND IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS.